



FREDERICK COUNTY AGRICULTURAL PROFILE

Frederick County is located in the central, Piedmont area of Maryland. It's 424,283 acres make it the second largest county in the state. A total of 215,927 acres of land is devoted to agriculture; this represents about 51 percent of the county's land. The topography in the county varies from gently rolling hills in the southern part of the county to near mountain-like conditions in the northern part of the county.

Frederick County has a very diverse crop and livestock agriculture, but it's forte' is dairy. It ranks first in the state in milk production. In 1999 there were 27,800 head of milk cows in the county producing 433 million pounds of milk. Fruits and vegetables produced in the county are commodities well known for excellent quality.

Frederick County's proximity to Washington, D.C. and Baltimore and their suburbs has resulted in an ever growing population. The 1990 census showed a total of 150,208 people. As a result of the 1990 census, Frederick County is included in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area for statistical purposes.

FREDERICK AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS

Crop	Year	Unit	Acreage Harvested	Average Yield	Total Production
Corn for Grain	1997	Bu.	162,200	70.7	1,145,500
	1998		19,200	109.7	2,106,600
	1999		16,600	64.8	1,076,100
Corn for Silage	1997	Tons.	32,700	7.7	251,500
	1998		28,000	13.2	370,600
	1999		32,300	9.4	302,600
Soybeans	1997	Bu.	25,000	24.2	603,900
	1998		22,500	32.4	729,000
	1999		24,000	23.1	554,200
Wheat	1997	Bu.	12,800	64.7	828,000
	1998		16,000	60.7	971,000
	1999		13,100	61.1	800,500
Hay	1997	Tons.	44,800	2.6	114,300
	1998		44,600	3.3	149,100
	1999		48,500	2.6	124,400
Oats	1997	Bu.	1,100	53.9	59,300
	1998		1,000	41.0	41,000
	1999		*	*	*
Barley	1997	Bu.	4,300	72.6	325,000
	1998		4,900	75.1	368,300
	1999		5,500	78.1	429,800

Crop Production Rank among MD. Counties, 1999				Livestock Inventories Rank among MD. Counties, 1997 ¹	
Corn	13	Oats	³	Cattle	1
Wheat	6	Barley	12	Hogs	6
Hay	1	Soybeans	10	Sheep	1
				Milk Production	1 ⁵

FREDERICK AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS

Farm Numbers & Size ¹		1987	1992	1997
Number of Farms		1,439	1,346	1,304
Average Size (acres)		164	166	166
Land in Farms (acres)		236,350	222,768	215,927

Livestock (Number on Farms) ¹		1987	1992	1997
Cattle Inventory	Jan. 1	78,537	73,252	65,359
Hog Inventory	Dec. 1	6,929	2,811	5,117
Sheep Inventory	Jan. 1	3,245	2,625	3,297

Average Number of Milk Cows		1997	1998	1999
		28,000	28,200	27,800

Milk Production - 1,000 lbs.		1997	1998	1999
		418,100	426,000	433,000

Value of Sales ¹		1987	1992	1997
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	----- Thousand Dollars -----			
All Products		94,647	109,197	101,660
Crops		9,034	18,139	17,497
Livestock, Poultry and Poultry Products		10,044	91,058	84,162

¹ Source: Census of Agriculture, NASS.
² Not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.
³ Unranked - Data not published.
⁴ Revised.
⁵ 1999
* Acreage too small to publish.

MONTHLY WEATHER DATA - 1999

MONTH	AVERAGE TEMP. (F)	NORMAL 1961-1990	TOTAL RAINFALL (INCHES)	NORMAL 1961-1990
January	35.0	32.8	4.61	2.87
February	39.1	33.7	3.92	2.70
March	42.9	41.1	3.28	3.34
April	55.6	56.9	3.24	3.47
May	65.3	62.3	1.27	4.42
June	73.4	71.3	1.29	3.80
July	**81.2	75.5	2.50	3.74
August	76.6	73.9	5.17	3.31
September	68.4	66.7	8.70	3.62
October	55.1	59.5	2.42	3.55
November	52.1	44.2	1.80	3.38
December	38.8	32.5	3.01	3.22
Annual	**57.0	54.2	41.21	41.42

** Insufficient and partial data.

Number frost free days for 1999	236
Normal frost free days 1951-1980	190 (1961-1990 Not available)
Highest temperature 07-31-99	99
Lowest temperature 01-06-99	8

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Compiled by the Maryland Cooperative Extension Service
and the Maryland Agricultural Statistics Service.